

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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Captain Jeff DeVere  
Government and Media Relations  
(360) 753-5299 – office  
(360) 753-5469 – fax  
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date: June 26, 2006**  
**Contact: Trooper Kirk Rudeen**  
**Phone: 360-658-2588 Ext 114**

## **4<sup>th</sup> of July Weekend Emphasis Patrols**

Washington State Patrol troopers will be out in force this holiday weekend from June 30 through July 4. Troopers in Snohomish, Skagit, Island, and Whatcom County will be out working emphasis patrols. The emphasis patrols will be held on I-5 and state routes, especially State Route 2, which is a major highway connecting the west and east side of the state. Funding from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission will allow additional troopers to work the emphasis patrols.

“With the increase in hot and sunny weather this time of year, we start to see an increase in speed and aggressive driving on our roadways,” Captain Jim Lever stated. “We know that speed is one of the main causes of injury and fatal collisions on our roadways, and we are determined to use all of our resources to reduce those collisions.”

The State Patrol is reminding people that traffic will be heavy on this holiday weekend and to watch your speed, wear your seatbelt, and don’t drink and drive. “Our troopers will be out working hard in an effort to make this a safe holiday weekend,” Captain Lever stated. “We want people to have a fun weekend, but we also want it to be a safe weekend.”

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